Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for accounting for network usage comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from two or more accounting servers via an information bus, wherein the information bus contains the accounting start-stop event data published by the two or more accounting servers;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from two or more routers within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

parsing said accounting start-stop event data from the two or more accounting servers on a prescribed time interval; and

publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

collecting said accounting start-stop event data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

collecting said accounting start-stop event data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

aggregating said network flow data at said intermediary netflow flow collector according to a service provider defined aggregation scheme.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

basing aggregation of said network flow data on a specified time period.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

basing aggregation of said network flow data on the Internet Protocol Layer 3 source address.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

basing aggregation of said network flow data on the Internet Protocol Layer 4 destination address.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

filtering said network flow data at the intermediary netflow collector according to a service provider defined filtration scheme.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

collecting said network flow data from the two or more routers and forwarding said network flow data to the intermediary netflow collectors;

aggregating said network flow data according to a defined aggregation scheme;

parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

publishing said network flow data on an information bus.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

filtering said network flow data according to a service provider defined filtration scheme.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data further comprises:

reforming said call detail record to meet post-correlated applications.

13. (Previously Presented) A method for accounting for network usage comprising:

parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;

parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

publishing said network flow data on an information bus;

collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data along with accounting start-stop event data from a different accounting server and network flow data from a different router; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

14. (Canceled).

15 (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

a means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data from two or more accounting servers via an information bus, wherein the information bus contains the accounting start-stop event data published by the two ore more accounting servers;

a means for obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from two or more routers within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

a means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

means for parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

means for publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

means for collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

means for aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;

means for parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

means for publishing said network flow data on an information bus;

means for collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data along with accounting start-stop event data from a different accounting server and network flow data from a different router; and

means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data info a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

an accounting adapter in communication with two or more accounting servers;

a network flow adapter in communication with two or more routers; and

an integrating accounting adapter in communication with said accounting adapter and said network flow adapter.

19-22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for accounting for network usage, said method comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from two or more accounting servers via an information bus, wherein the information bus contains the accounting start-stop event data published by the two or more accounting servers;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from two or more routers within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

24-35. (Canceled).

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

means for parsing said accounting start-stop event data from the two or more accounting servers on a prescribed time interval; and

means for publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

means for collecting said accounting start-stop event data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein said means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

means for collecting said accounting start-stop event data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for obtaining network flow data further comprises:

means for aggregating said network flow data at said intermediary netflow flow collector according to a service provider defined aggregation scheme.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said means for aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

means for basing aggregation of said network flow data on a specified time period.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said means for aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

means for basing aggregation of said network flow data on the Internet Protocol Layer 3 source address.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said means for aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

means for basing aggregation of said network flow data on the Internet Protocol Layer 4 destination address.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said means for obtaining network flow data further comprises:

means for filtering said network flow data at the intermediary netflow collector according to a service provider defined filtration scheme.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for obtaining network flow data further comprises:

means for collecting said network flow data from the two or more routers and forwarding said network flow data to the intermediary netflow collectors;

aggregating said network flow data according to a defined aggregation scheme;

parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

publishing said network flow data on an information bus.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for obtaining network flow data further comprises:

means for filtering said network flow data according to a service provider defined filtration scheme.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data further comprises:

means for reforming said call detail record to meet post-correlated applications.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said accounting adapter is configured to obtain accounting start-stop event data from two or more accounting servers via an information bus, wherein the information bus contains the accounting start-stop event data published by the two or more accounting servers.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein said network flow adapter is configured to obtain network flow data independent from the accounting start-stop event data from two or more routers within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, the network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein said integrating accounting adapter is configured to correlate the accounting start-stop event data and the network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to the user by matching the accounting start-stop event data associated with the user with the network flow data associated with the user.